

# Daniels Describes Momentous Sessions Of Cabinet Preceding the Declaration of War When Policies Were Decided Upon

By JOSEPHUS DANIELS  
Former Secretary of the Navy.

Copyright, 1921, by John F. Dille. Copyright by National Newspaper Service. Copyright in Great Britain, Canada and throughout Europe. All rights reserved. Including translation into foreign languages, including Scandinavian. Unauthorized reprinting for any purpose forbidden.

## ARTICLE 2.

"I want to do right, whether it is popular or not." The words fell solemnly and deliberately from the lips of President Wilson as his eyes searched the souls of the grave-faced men gathered about the cabinet table.

Already the clamor and counter-clamor was rising from the country. The sympathies and prejudices of men were finding voice; passions were being stirred to utterance. The echo of the tumult could not be excluded wholly from the cabinet room. Each of us felt the vibrations of popular sentiment and demand; each of us needed the steadying words of our great leader.

I give them the place of prominence in this article, which is to tell the story of two momentous prewar cabinet meetings, because I believe they express, better than anything I could say, the spirit and attitude of Woodrow Wilson from the first days of America's crisis to the hour when he resigned the cares of office.

It is my conviction, as a result of close association with him in times of supreme stress, that in every great question the principle embodied in his simple but profound utterance controlled the course he ultimately decided to take. When he made up his mind that a thing was right, that it should be done, he did it, regardless of its effect on his party or his personal fortunes.

**Navy Was Ready.** As I intimated in my first article, the navy was ready for mobilization within 24 hours after Bernstorff had delivered his U-boat ultimatum—in effect it was that—to the State department. The word had gone to every ship and station on Thursday, February 1.

A cabinet meeting was called for the afternoon of Friday, Feb. 2. As we assembled not one of us failed to realize the significance of the occasion. The hour had come for a tremendous decision. The time for negotiation and parley was in the soul of every man present to greet the president when he entered the room.

The solemnity of the moment had intensified the austerity which those who do not know him well mistakenly suppose to be his prevailing humor. As I shall show later, Woodrow Wilson is a man of geniality and humor.

But this was a day when only serious thought could hold place in any mind. The destiny of 100,000,000 people lay in the hands of the president of the United States—perhaps the destiny of the world.

No man there had failed to read the text of the German note which was the occasion of our meeting, but the president, in measured tones, giving weight to every significant syllable, read it to us again.

**Cabinet Is Unanimous.** I have no doubt his mind was already made up as to the right course to take, but, before expressing an opinion, he called upon his colleagues to declare their views. Each man spoke freely and frankly what he thought. Expressions varied in tone and in approach to the main problem, but all agreed upon one thing—the time had come when diplomatic relations with Germany must be severed.

This was the president's belief. Nor do I think it was any surprise to him that his colleagues were unanimous in unit for the dismissal of Ambassador Bernstorff and the ending of all further traffic with the empire of the Hohenzollerns.

Although the session lasted for several hours, this decision was reached comparatively early. It had required no debate. The unanswerable argument was before us in the German note—defiant, peremptory, barbaric.

The remaining time was devoted to discussing what should be the next step in the various departments of the government, more particularly in those of state, war and navy. The severance of relations, it was realized would create an exceedingly critical situation, and no one tried to deceive himself with the supposition that it was not likely to lead in a few weeks at most to open war.

How the importance of mapping a program for immediate action.

**Assured of Congress' Support.** From the cabinet meeting the president went to the capitol, and discussed the situation with members of the senate committee on foreign relations and other senators. He was assured of their support in any steps he considered necessary.

I returned to the Navy department so thoroughly convinced hostilities were imminent that I sent the following telegram—"Six Alnav. In view of present international situation take every precaution to protect the government plants and vessels." "Alnav" was the code word for "all the navy."

I pass now to the second of the two prewar cabinet meetings which had to do with big decisions. Much happened between February 2 and March 20 of absorbing interest and importance, but I will reserve the telling of it for a subsequent article.

**March 20 Fateful Date.** Tuesday, March 20, has been overlooked in the war chronologies so far as I have observed. But the day should be there and underscored as a day fateful for America and mankind.

Eleven days earlier the president had called congress to a special session, on April 16, "to receive such communication as may be made by the executive."

But events were moving rapidly. Four American vessels had been sunk without warning—the Algonquin, City of Memphis, Illinois and Vigilance—with the loss of American lives, German U-boats were destroying shipping, neutral as well as belligerent, by the hundred thousand tons. On March 12 we had begun arming merchantmen, but it was already evident this defense was insufficient.

Shall congress be called in session at an earlier date? If so, what message should the president send in view of the situation?

These were the two vitally important questions the meeting of March 20 was called to answer.

**Wilson Explains Situation.** With an even greater solemnity than had marked his utterance following the receipt of the U-boat note, the president set forth the serious character of the situation. He

been settled that a member of the cabinet read aloud a sheaf of telegrams conveying the impression that the people of America were clamoring for war, and it was in response to this display of feeling that the president spoke the words with which I began my narrative.

"I Want to Do Right." "We are not governed by opinion in our conclusion," said he. "I want to do right, whether it is popular or not."

The next morning the president issued his proclamation summoning congress for April 2, "to receive a communication by the executive on grave questions of national policy which should be taken immediately under consideration."

In the meantime, returning from the cabinet meeting to the Navy department, I had ordered the fleet to proceed at once from its maneuvering ground in Cuban waters to Hampton roads. It was coming we wanted our ships nearer home. But the details which have to do with the navy program in these immediately pre-war days belong to another story.

(The third article by Former Secretary Daniels, telling of the mobilization of the navy, will be printed in The Bee tomorrow.)

## Twenty Omaha Hikers Plan Trip in Rockies

Twenty members of the Omaha Walking club expect to make a 100-mile hike through Rocky Mountain National park this summer. The dates set for the hike are July 17 to 31, according to Elizabeth Parsons, secretary of the club.

The hikers expect to make 10 or 11 miles daily and seven nights will be spent in the open. R. B. Gray, Lois Robbins, Margaret Flickinger, Mrs. Marie Caldwell, Ralph S. Dowd, Norman J. Weston and Miss Elizabeth Parsons make up the outing committee.

The party will leave Omaha, July 17, for Denver and Copeland Lodge, where the hike begins. A noted guide has been engaged to conduct the tour.

## Primary Cost "Fortunate 14" Less Than Beaten Candidates

W. G. Ure and James C. Dahlman were close to one another in the matter of primary campaign expenses. Aside from their filing fees of \$10, Ure spent \$25 and Dahlman spent \$26. Both were nominated.

The affidavits of expenditures were filed with Harley G. Moorhead, election commissioner, Friday. Affidavits filed show that it cost a majority of those defeated more to make the race than it did those of the "fortunate 14."

Slave girls are still sold for from \$10 to \$20 each in Constantinople.

## April 22 Is Last Day On Which to Register

Registration for the city election May 3 will close at 9 p. m. April 22. The election commissioner's office in the court house is open from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily. On April 20,

21 and 22 the office will remain open until 9 p. m. Voters must be registered in order to cast their ballot legally at the polls May 3.

**Doctor Sued for Divorce** Rebecca F. Green filed suit for divorce today against Dr. James L. Green, alleging that he has threat-

ened her life and failed to provide proper support. She asks custody of five of their nine children, these being minors. They were married in 1895.

**Hearst on Way West.** William Randolph Hearst will be in Omaha this morning about 20 minutes when the Overland Lin-

ited train, on which he is traveling from New York to San Francisco, stops at the Union station.

**Jury Reaches No Decision On Meat Market Burglary** Unable to reach a verdict, the jury which heard the evidence in the suit of Ray Wilkinson and E. J. McGlone against the Employers' Liability Insurance company was dismissed by District Judge Goss yesterday.

The insurance company refused to pay \$1,000 insurance for an alleged burglary of the Omaha Market, May 29, 1920, on the allegation that Wilkinson and McGlone had "staged" the affair.

## ONE MINUTE STORE TALK

"I've looked all over Pittsburg, New York, Detroit and Chicago for a real suit of clothes and it may sound absurd to people who don't know your store as well as I do by this comparison, but here's a stock of merchandise worth talking about. There are thousands of stores in America but when it comes to a STOCK of clothes you're in a class by yourself," said a customer.

**GREATER NEBRASKA'S IDEA OF SERVICE STARTS WITH FAST SELECTIONS OF BEST CLOTHES MADE.**

JOHN A. SWANSON, Pres.

The Nebraska

WM. L. HOLZMAN, Treas.

# Entirely New Showing of New Styles Young Men's Spring Clothes At the New Lower Prices

YOUR insistent demands for out-of-the-ordinary styles is being instantly met by this Greater Store. You're out in the world for recognition today and plain matter of fact clothes won't do - You know it, we know it, our clothes designers know it.

Come Saturday and see the results of our keen analysis of the clothes situation: an unequaled entirely new style show here

## The New Sport Suits

Months from now you'll see them elsewhere—today they're here and exclusively here. New versions of the belt and half belts, of the pleat and tuck, of the patch and welt pocket. Besides, a bewildering array of entirely new fabrics and colors—

\$35 to \$60

## Younger Young Men's Spring Styles

In or out of high school means long trouser suits—and what crimes are often committed in the name of "youths' clothes." Here you find the master creations of Langham, Society Brand, Kuppenheimer Junior and a host of other originators of younger young men's exclusive spring suit fashions—

\$20 to \$45

## Men's and Young Men's Trousers

A Great Value Demonstration

\$3.50 to \$7.50



Men's, Young Men's, Younger Young Men's Clothing—Entire Second Floor Both Buildings.

## The New Sack Suits

Not a familiar thing about the new models in single and double-breasted suits for young men. Our designers have evolved new patterns and ingenious style treatments that are a surprise and delight to behold and wear. New pencil stripes, new checks, new over-plaids, herringbone novelty worsteds, tweeds, chevots, in blues, grays, browns, tans, olive and fancy mixtures—

\$35 to \$60

## "Hard-to-Fit" Men Your Clothes are Here

You're young, too—when you get the right clothes you feel that way. Stout men, young stouts, short stouts, big men, tall men, heavy men, slim men, short men. No limit to our clothes selections. Vast stocks. Every size from the smallest to 52-inch chest.

\$25 to \$60

## Spring Top Coats Gaberdines Motor Coats

From Chesterfields to Ultra Novelty Styles

\$25 to \$50

# Attend the Value Demonstration Saturday Spring "E. & W." Shirts

WOVEN Madras



NEW HOLEPROOF LISLE HOSIERY, 40¢ SILK, 75¢

That's right, look again—\$1.40—that's the price on dozens upon dozens of "E. & W." Shirts for Saturday.

\$1.40

In this lot you'll find high grade Russian cords and woven madras shirtings. The sizes range 14 to 17. Stock up for summer.

WOVEN Madras



NEW INTERWOVEN SILK HOSIERY AT 75¢

INCLUDING SOME BEAU BRUNNELL AND ACE SHIRTS IN THE ABOVE New prices, new colors, new fabrics, from Manhattan, Eagle, Bates Street, Yorks, Beau Brunnell, including many new collar attached styles; silk, silk mixtures and madras, at \$2.00 to \$7.50.

New Spring Neckwear An avenue of Silk Neckwear at Greater Nebraska—a silk neckwear exposition. Imported and American weaves and knitted silks, 50¢ to \$3.00.

Men's Spring Underwear

Happy man who selects from complete stocks his season's requirements. Knitted and Athletic Vassar. Superior and other best makes, \$1.00 to \$6.50.

Nebraska Clothing Co. JOHN A. SWANSON, Pres. WM. L. HOLZMAN, Treas. FARNAM AT FIFTEENTH ST.

CORRECT APPAREL FOR MEN AND WOMEN

## BEATON'S SATURDAY SPECIALS

Remember Your Nearest Drug Store is the Telephone—Why Not Beaton's?

Our Motorcycles Are at Your Service up to 10 P. M. Phones: Douglas 0081-0082-0083-0084 Free Delivery to All Parts of Omaha.

### DRUG WANTS

- 30c Laveris ..... 20¢
- 35c Bandoine, Beaton's ..... 25¢
- 20c Brono Seltzer ..... 22¢
- 30c Pond's Vanishing Cream for ..... 22¢
- 50c Stillman's Freckle Cream for ..... 39¢
- 60c Daggett's & Ramsdell's Cold Cream ..... 48¢
- 60c Hind's Honey and Almond for ..... 47¢
- 1.50 Goutorbe Face Powder for ..... 96¢
- 75c Pinaud's Tivoli Face Powder ..... 59¢
- 50c Pepsodent Tooth Paste for ..... 39¢
- 50c Pebecco Tooth Paste ..... 39¢
- 30c Woodbury's Facial Soap for ..... 21¢
- 30c Cuticura Soap ..... 22¢
- 20c DeMar's Glycerine or Almond Soap, per cake ..... 9¢
- Per dozen ..... \$1.00
- 25c Palmer's Lotion Soap ..... 17¢
- 35c Cutex Nail Preparations for ..... 29¢
- 1.50 Lila Vegetal, Pinaud's, for ..... 98¢
- 65c Glover's Mange Remedy for ..... 49¢
- 30c Colorite ..... 22¢
- 1.25 Listerine ..... 79¢
- 35c Eagle Brand Milk ..... 25¢
- 1.10 Nuxated Iron ..... 89¢
- 1.25 Lyko Tonic ..... 89¢
- 1.25 Pinkham's Vegetable Compound ..... 89¢
- 40c Castoria ..... 24¢
- 30c Laxative Bromo Quinine, for ..... 22¢
- 35c Sal Hepatica ..... 28¢
- \$3.75 Horlick's Malted Milk, for ..... \$2.89
- 75c Mioma Dyspepsia Tablets, for ..... 49¢
- 25c 4-oz. Peroxide Hydrogen, for ..... 10¢
- 50c Orazin Tooth Paste ..... 34¢
- 60c Cocoonat Oil Emulsion ..... 39¢
- 20c Venida Hair Nets, 2 for ..... 25¢
- 60c Herpicide ..... 39¢
- 35c Mentholatum ..... 17¢

### PERFUMES

- \$2.00 Djerklas Extract, per oz. .... \$1.15
- \$1.35 Jicky Extract, oz. .... 85¢
- Ideal Extract, Houbigants, per oz. .... \$2.49

### RUBBER GOODS

- \$2.00 2-qt. Velvet Combination Hot Water Bottle and Fountain Syringe ..... \$1.45
- \$1.40 Radiant 2-qt. Fountain Syringe, for ..... 85¢

### PHOTO DEPT.

- Anso No. 3 Vest Pocket Jr. Special ..... \$12.00
  - Good Box Cameras ..... \$2.50 and \$3.50
- Films Developed Free When Prints Are Ordered.

### CANDY DEPT.

- Saturday
- 80c Fruit-filled, Assorted Candies, per lb ..... 39¢
- \$1.00 Chocolate Covered Filberts, per lb ..... 59¢



Women Who Value Their Beauty Use

Graham Beauty Secret

Simple to apply—Immediate results.

TREATMENT: 1—Apply cream thickly to face and neck. 2—Allow it to dry thoroughly. 3—Wash off with cold water. 4—Massage with Graham's Skin Pure.

RESULTS: Wrinkles disappear. Blackheads are eliminated. Coarse pores refined. Skin left fine, clear, and glowing. For Sale at Beaton's.

Mail Orders Receive Our Prompt Attention Beaton Drug Co. 15th and Farnam